

New Iowa Elementary Education Praxis II Testing Requirement

Frequently Asked Questions

The Iowa Department of Education announces that every new Iowa elementary teacher completing a state approved teacher preparation program in the 2006-2007 academic year must take one of two Praxis II content tests in order to be considered Highly Qualified under the federal legislation No Child Left Behind. The Iowa Department of Education requires that you take one of two paper-based Subject Assessment content tests through the Educational Testing Service.

1) How do I meet the new testing requirement for elementary teacher program completion?

The Iowa Department of Education requires that you take one of these two paper-based tests:

- Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (0014) 2 hour test
- OR**
- Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (0011) 2 hour test

2) Which content test should I take? Would I have a better chance of earning a higher score on one of these tests?

This is your decision. Considerations in choosing which of the two tests to take may include:

- The content of each of the tests.
Sample test questions can be viewed in the *Test at a Glance* materials at www.ets.org.
- The state in which you plan to teach.
Other states may have different requirements for Praxis II content tests. See the table following question 10) for Praxis II content test requirements for 12 individual states.

Either elementary education content test will meet the new Iowa elementary teacher program content requirement.

3) When should I take the test?

August 5, 2006 - Register by July 6 **We recommend this test date, especially if you are graduating in December of 2006.**

September 16, 2006 - Registration information is expected to be available in late July; ETS has not yet officially released its test dates for the 2006-2007 school year. The registration deadline is anticipated to be mid-August. This answer will be updated when information becomes available.

4) Where can I take the test in Iowa?

The following 4 test sites in Iowa are available on the August 5, 2006 test date:

Iowa City	The University of Iowa
Ames	Iowa State University
Decorah	Luther College
Sioux City	Morningside College

Additional test sites will be available for the 2006-07 school year. Information will be posted on www.iowacte.org as well as on the ETS test site list.

5) How do I register for the Praxis II Elementary Education content tests?

Register on-line at www.ets.org:

- Follow the link to the *Praxis II* tests;
- Follow the link to *Registering for a Test*.
- Select a test: type in either 0011 or 0014; the prompt will provide you with the test name and ask you to select that test. You will then be asked to choose a test site.
- Select a city in which you wish to test (these are not available as a single menu of options); test site information will be displayed.
- Once you have chosen a test site, you will be prompted to check for seat availability.
- If a seat is available at that site, you will be prompted to choose that test at that site.
- You will be provided a summary of your test registration information (test and test site).
- You will then need to enter the higher education institution you are attending, which will automatically be a score recipient.
- You will then be able to select additional score recipients (states or institutions).
- Pay by credit card.
- **Print your electronic ticket**; this ticket will be needed when you arrive to take the test.

You can also register by paper but it requires more time and familiarity with the test names, numbers, and the fees.

6) What is the cost of this test?

The cost of this test will be \$115.00; this includes \$75.00 for the test and \$40.00 for the test registration.

7) Where should I send my test scores?

Request that your score be sent to **your teacher preparation institution** (where you completed/are completing your teacher preparation program). Your score must be received by your college/university program in order for you to complete your program and be recommended for licensure.

8) What is the minimum score I must attain for Iowa elementary teacher program completion?

There is no minimum score requirement for Iowa elementary teacher program completion at this time. The state of Iowa plans to set a qualifying score in the next 6 months.

If you are graduating in December of 2006 –

- You are required to take one of the two content tests in order to complete your teacher education program.
- You are **NOT** required to attain a qualifying score. Your score, however, will be used by the State to determine the future qualifying score.
- It is recommended that you put forth your best effort in taking the test as your score will be on record for 10 years to use for qualifying for other states' license requirements.

If you are graduating in the spring of 2007 or AFTER –

- You are required to take one of the two content tests in order to complete your teacher education program.
- You **ARE** required to attain a qualifying score. The qualifying score will be determined by January, 2007. This information will be sent immediately to all teacher preparation programs and will be posted on the IACTE website at www.iowacte.org.

9) If I plan to teach outside of Iowa, do I need to take this elementary education content test?

Yes.

10) Will this elementary education content test (Praxis II) satisfy any other state's specialized licensure content test requirements?

Listed below are some other states that require a Praxis II Elementary Education content test, including the name of the test and the qualifying score. Information on other states can be found under *State Requirements* on the Praxis II section of the ETS website.

Praxis II Tests/Required Scores of Some States
(Information on other states can be found at www.ets.org)

STATE	TEST	QUALIFYING SCORE
Delaware	0011 or 0014	158 151
Indiana	0011	165
Kansas	0011	163
Kentucky	0014	148
Louisiana	0014	150
Minnesota	0014	145
Missouri	0011	164
North Dakota	0011	158
Pennsylvania	0011	168
South Dakota	0014	137
Vermont	0014	148
Wisconsin	0014	147

As more information becomes available, the Iowa College/University Teacher Education Programs will be informed, and the IACTE website at www.iowacte.org will be updated.